

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claims 9-11. Please amend claims 1, 4, 8, 12, and 13-18 as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A bumper assembly for a golf car, comprising:
 - a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction; and
 - a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end, wherein said first end of said first bumper bracket is affixed to said first end of said back surface of said bumper beam, said-a first bumper guard is affixed to said front surface of said front end of said bumper beam, said first end of said second bumper bracket is affixed to said second end of said back surface of said bumper beam, said-a second bumper guard is affixed to said front surface of said second end of said bumper beam, said second end of said first bumper bracket and said second end of said second bumper bracket are adapted to be affixed to a front axle of athe golf car.
2. (Original) The bumper assembly of claim 1, wherein each bumper bracket has a body, a first lip positioned at said first end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, a second lip positioned at said second end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, and a third lip depending from said body, wherein said first lip and said second lip each have a hole defined therein.
3. (Original) The bumper assembly of claim 2, further comprising said bumper beam having a hole defined adjacent to said first end and a hole defined adjacent to said second end, and at least two fasteners, wherein said bumper brackets are affixed to said back surface of said bumper beam by aligning the hole of said first lip of said first bumper bracket with the hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam, and aligning the hole of said first lip of said second bumper bracket with the hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam,

wherein each of the aligned holes receives one of said fasteners therein to secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets.

4. (Currently Amended) The bumper assembly of claim 1, further comprising ~~a~~the first bumper guard and ~~a~~the second bumper guard, each of said bumper guards having depending ends.

5. (Original) The bumper assembly of claim 4, further comprising at least two fasteners, wherein each bumper guard has a hole defined therein and depending ends defining a bumper beam recess, wherein said front surface of said bumper beam is received in said bumper beam recess of said bumper guards, and wherein said bumper guards are affixed to said front surface of said bumper beam by aligning the hole of said first bumper guard with the hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam, and aligning the hole of said second bumper guard with the hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam, wherein each of the holes receives one of said fasteners therein to further secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets.

6. (Original) The bumper assembly of claim 1, wherein said front surface of said bumper beam is covered with an elastomeric material.

7. (Original) The bumper assembly of claim 4, wherein said bumper guards are covered with an elastomeric material.

8. (Currently Amended) A bumper assembly for a golf car, said bumper assembly comprising:

a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, a hole defined adjacent said first end and a hole defined adjacent said second end, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction;

a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each bumper guard having a hole defined therein and depending ends defining a bumper beam receiving recess;

a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end, said bumper bracket having a body, a first lip positioned at said

first end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, a second lip positioned at said second end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, a third lip depending from said body, said first lip and said second lip each having a hole defined therein; and

at least two fasteners, wherein said bumper brackets are affixed to said back surface of said bumper beam by aligning the hole of said first lip of said first bumper bracket with the hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam, and aligning the hole of said first lip of said second bumper bracket with the hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam, wherein each of the holes receives one of said fasteners therein to secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets, and wherein said depending ends of said bumper guards receive said front surface of said bumper beam in said bumper beam recess and said bumper guards are affixed to said front surface of said bumper beam by aligning the hole of said first bumper guard with the hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam, and aligning the hole of said second bumper guard with the hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam, and wherein each of the holes receives one of said fasteners therein to further secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets, and wherein said first bumper bracket and said second bumper bracket are adapted to affix to a front axle of a~~the~~ golf car.

9-11 (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 9A method for attaching a bumper assembly on a golf car, comprising:~~

providing a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction, wherein said bumper beam has a hole defined adjacent said first end and a hole defined adjacent said second end;

providing a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end;

affixing said first end of said first bumper bracket to said first end of said back surface of said bumper beam;

affixing said first end of said second bumper bracket to said second end of said back surface of said bumper beam, wherein said first bumper bracket and said second bumper bracket are adapted to affix to a front axle of the golf car; and

providing a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each of said bumper guards having depending ends, wherein each bumper guard has a hole defined therein.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9,A method for attaching a bumper assembly on a golf car, comprising:

providing a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction, wherein said bumper beam has a hole defined adjacent said first end and a hole defined adjacent said second end;

providing a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end;

affixing said first end of said first bumper bracket to said first end of said back surface of said bumper beam;

affixing said first end of said second bumper bracket to said second end of said back surface of said bumper beam, wherein said first bumper bracket and said second bumper bracket are adapted to affix to a front axle of the golf car;

providing a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each of said bumper guards having depending ends; and

further comprising bending the depending ends of each bumper guard to define a bumper beam recess, wherein said bumper beam is received in said bumper beam recess prior to affixing said bumper guards to said bumper beam.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9A method for attaching a bumper assembly on a golf car, comprising:

providing a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction, wherein said bumper beam has a hole defined adjacent said first end and a hole defined adjacent said second end;

providing a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end;

affixing said first end of said first bumper bracket to said first end of said back surface of said bumper beam;

affixing said first end of said second bumper bracket to said second end of said back surface of said bumper beam, wherein said first bumper bracket and said second bumper bracket are adapted to affix to a front axle of the golf car; and

providing a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each of said bumper guards having depending ends, wherein each bumper bracket has a body, a first lip positioned at said first end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, a second lip positioned at said second end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, and a third lip depending from said body, wherein said first lip and said second lip each have a hole defined therein.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising: A method for attaching a bumper assembly on a golf car, comprising:

providing a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction, wherein said bumper beam has a hole defined adjacent said first end and a hole defined adjacent said second end;

providing a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end;

affixing said first end of said first bumper bracket to said first end of said back surface of said bumper beam;

affixing said first end of said second bumper bracket to said second end of said back surface of said bumper beam, wherein said first bumper bracket and said second bumper bracket are adapted to affix to a front axle of the golf car;

providing a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each of said bumper guards having depending ends;

providing at least two fasteners;

affixing said bumper brackets to said back surface of said bumper beam by aligning the a hole of a said first lip of said first bumper bracket with the a hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam, and aligning the a hole of said first lip of said second bumper bracket with the a hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam, and passing one of said fasteners through each of the aligned holes to secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets; and

receiving said bumper beam in said a bumper beam recess and affixing said bumper guards to said front surface of said bumper beam by aligning the a hole of said first bumper guard with the a hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam and aligning the a hole of said second bumper guard with the a hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam, and passing one of said fasteners through each of the aligned holes to further secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for placing a bumper assembly on a golf car, comprising:

providing a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, a front surface and a back surface, a hole defined adjacent said first end, and a hole defined adjacent said second end, said bumper beam extending in a longitudinal direction;

providing a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each bumper guard having a hole defined therein and depending ends, said depending ends defining a bumper beam receiving recess;

providing a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a body and a first end and a second end, a first lip positioned at said first end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, a second lip positioned at said second end of said bumper bracket and depending from said body, and a third lip depending from said body, wherein said first lip and said second lip each have a hole defined therein;

providing at least two fasteners;

affixing said bumper brackets to said back surface of said bumper beam by aligning the a hole of said first lip of said first bumper bracket with the a hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam, and aligning the a hole of said first lip of said second bumper bracket with the a hole adjacent to said second end of said bumper beam, and passing one of said fasteners through each of the aligned holes to secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets;

receiving said bumper beam in said a bumper beam recess and affixing said bumper guards to said front surface of said bumper beam by aligning the a hole of said first bumper guard with the a hole adjacent to said first end of said bumper beam and aligning the a hole of said second bumper guard with the a hole adjacent to said second end of said front surface of

said bumper beam, and passing one of said fasteners through each of the aligned holes to further secure said bumper beam to said bumper brackets; and

affixing said bumper brackets to a front axle of athe golf car.

17. (Currently Amended) A kit for a bumper assembly for a golf car, comprising:

a bumper beam having a first end and a second end, and a front surface and a back surface;

a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end;

a first mounting plate and a second mounting plate; and

a first bumper guard and a second bumper guard, each bumper guard having depending ends, wherein said first bumper guard is adapted to receive said first end of said front surface of said bumper beam, said second bumper guard is adapted to receive said second end of said front surface of said bumper beam, said back surface of said first end of said bumper beam is adapted to receive said first end of said first bumper bracket, said back surface of said second end of said bumper beam is adapted to receive said first end of said second bumper bracket, and said first bumper bracket and said second bumper bracket are adapted to receive a front axle of athe golf car.

18. (Currently Amended) In a golf car having a body, a plurality of wheels, and a front axle, the improvement comprising:

a bumper beam having a first end and a second end and a front surface and a back surface, said bumper beam extending in a width-wise direction of said golf car; and

a first bumper bracket and a second bumper bracket, each bumper bracket having a first end and a second end, wherein said first bumper bracket is affixed to said first end of said back surface of said bumper beam, asaid first bumper guard is affixed to said front surface of said front end of said bumper beam, said second bumper bracket is affixed to said second end of said back surface of said bumper beam, asaid second bumper guard is affixed to said front surface of said second end of said bumper beam, said second end of said first bumper bracket is affixed to said front axle of said golf car, said second end of said second bumper bracket is affixed to said front axle of said golf car.